

# **Welcome to NASA Applied Remote Sensing Training Program (ARSET) Webinar Series**

## **Introduction to Remote Sensing Data for Land Management**

**Course Dates: Every Tuesday, May 20-June 17  
Time: 12-1PM EDT**

**ARSET  
Applied Remote SEnsing Training**

A project of NASA Applied Sciences



# Important Information

- Presentations URL:
  - [Http://arset.gsfc.nasa.gov/webinars](http://arset.gsfc.nasa.gov/webinars)
- Contact for requesting recorded link for the webinars:
  - Marines Martins: [marines.martins@ssaihq.com](mailto:marines.martins@ssaihq.com)
- ARSET Land ListServ URL:
  - <https://lists.nasa.gov/mailman/listinfo/nasa-water-training>
- Homework update: I will send you a link to access a Google document.

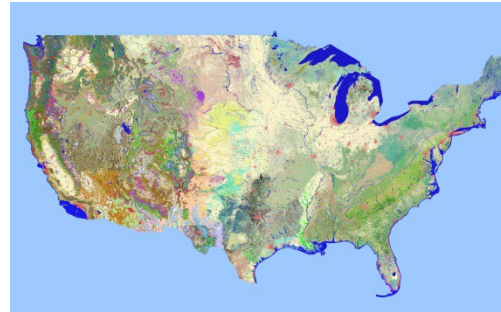
# Course Outline

## Week 1



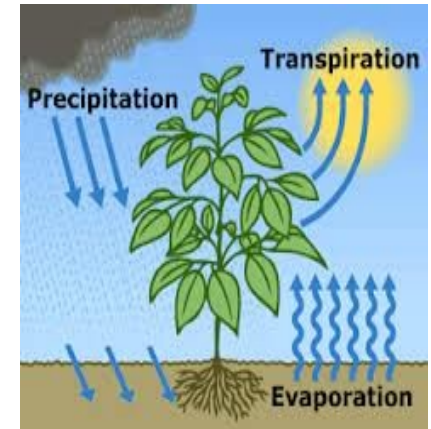
**Intro. & Background:  
Satellite Remote Sensing**

## Week 2



**Land Cover  
Mapping/Web tools for  
data access**

## Week 3



**Soil Moisture and  
Evapotranspiration**

## Week 4



**Change Detection**

## Week 5




**Web tools for data access/Importing  
data into GIS**

# ARSET Land Resource Management

http

://arset.gsfc.nasa.gov/eco/webinars/land-management

**ARSET**  
Applied Remote Sensing Training

Earth Science DivisionApplied Sciences ProgramASP Water Resources

ECOFORCASTINGHEALTH & AIR QUALITYWATER RESOURCES


**Eco Forecasting**  
▼ **Eco Webinars**  
- **Land Management**  
**Eco Personnel**

## NASA Remote Sensing for Land Management

Tuesday, May 20, 2014 to Tuesday, June 17, 2014

Times: Every Tuesday at 12 pm EDT (4 pm UTC).

Course Objective: This course focuses on satellite image access and visualization. It does not cover the use of any image processing software for image analysis, which may be taught in future courses. This course is free.

Agenda:  [Land Management Webinar Agenda](#)

GIS: True

Instruments: [Landsat](#), [MODIS](#)

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### Week 1

**Overview of NASA Remote Sensing and Earth systems modeling data for Land Management/Natural Resource Management.**

- Management/Natural Resource Management
- Course Introduction
- Fundamentals of Remote Sensing
- Examples of satellites, sensors for Natural Resource Management

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# Course Instructors for Today

- Cindy Schmidt (ARSET) –  
Cynthia.L.Schmidt@nasa.gov
- For more information about the ARSET  
program contact: Ana Prados  
aprados@umbc.edu

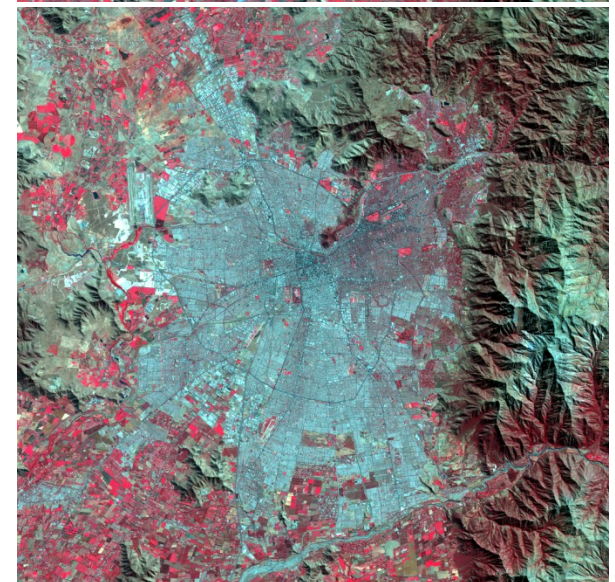
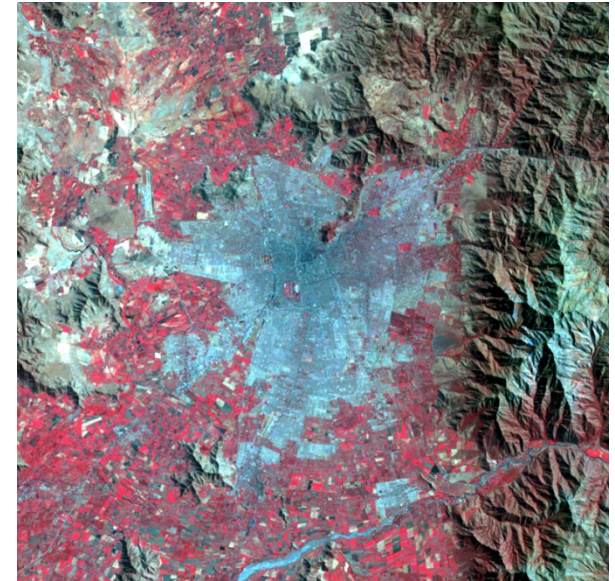
# Outline

- Definition and applications
- Methods
- Where to obtain and visualize change detection datasets
- Live demo

# **Change Detection: Definitions and Applications**

# What is Change Detection?

- The comparison of information about an area on the earth over two or more points in time.
  - Where and when has change taken place?
  - How much change, and what type of change has occurred?
  - What are the cycles and



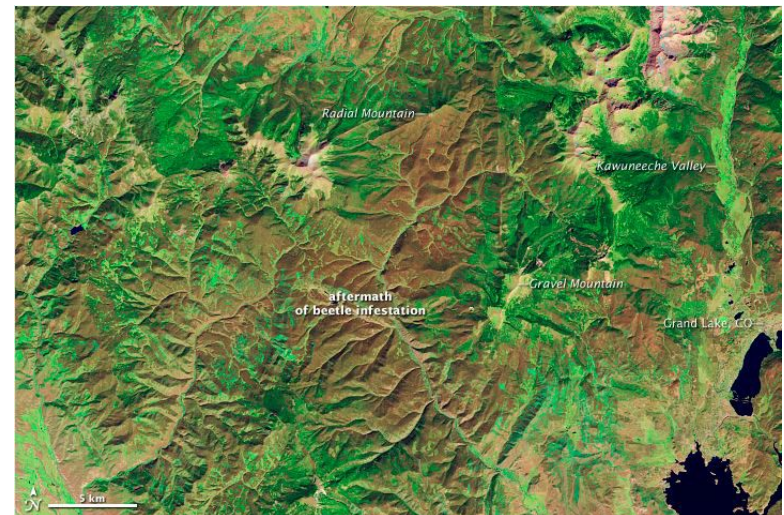
*Santiago, Chile urban growth from 1975 to 2013 from Landsat*  
Source: [earthshots.usgs.gov](http://earthshots.usgs.gov)

trends in the change?

# Change Detection Applications

- Deforestation assessment
  - Vegetation phenology
  - Urban growth
  - Forest disturbance assessment
  - Crop stress detection
  - Etc.....
- Bark beetle infestation in Colorado between 2005 and 2011

Source: [earthobservatory.nasa.gov](http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov)





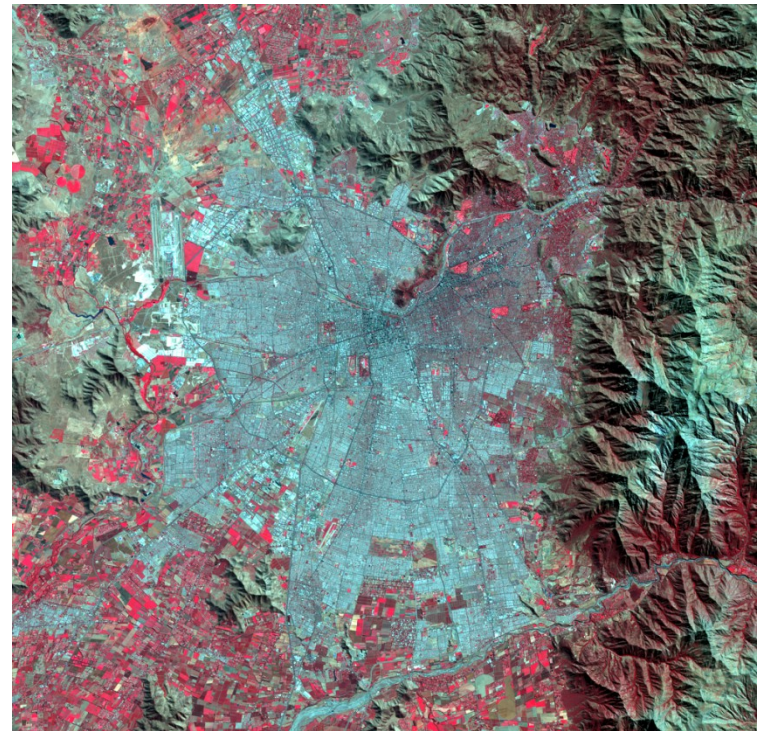
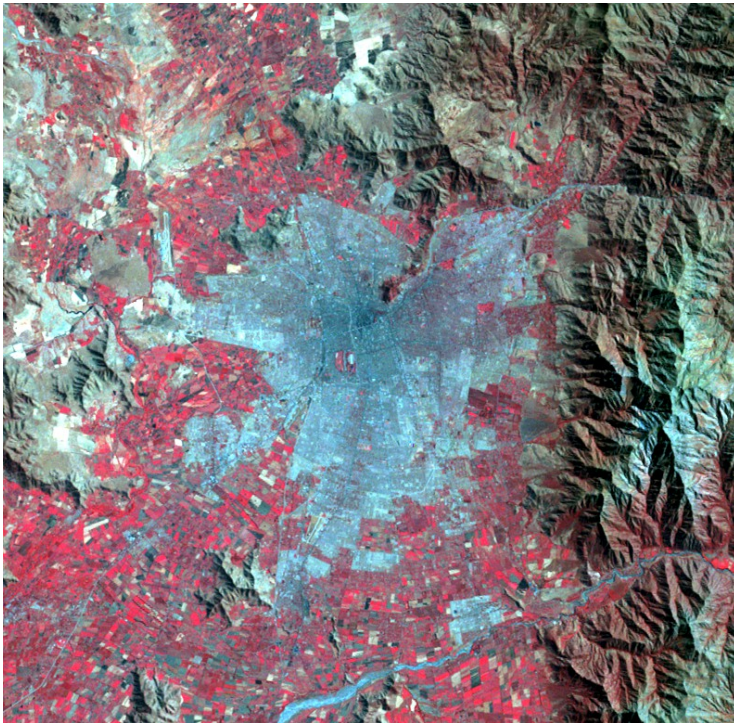
# **Change Detection Methods**

# Change Detection Methods

- Visual analysis
- Classification approaches
- Image Differencing
- New developments: Temporal trajectories
- NDVI time series

# Change Detection: Visual Analysis

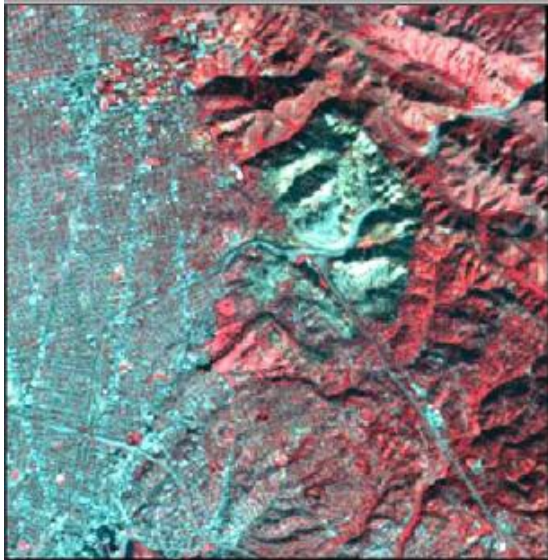
- Heads-up digitizing
- Need GIS or Image Processing software



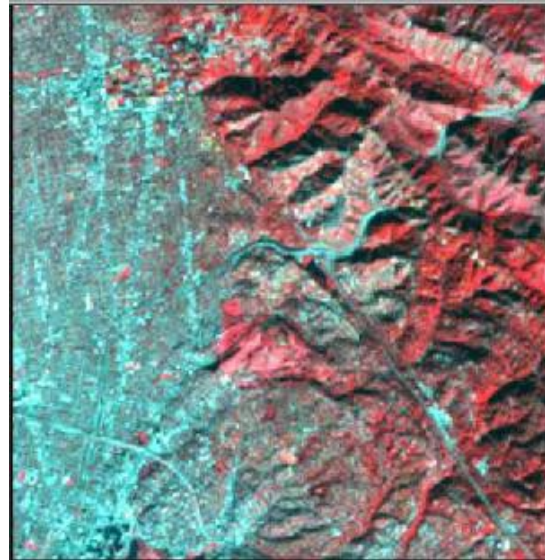
*Santiago, Chile urban growth from 1975 to 2013 from Landsat*

*Source: earthshots.usgs.gov*

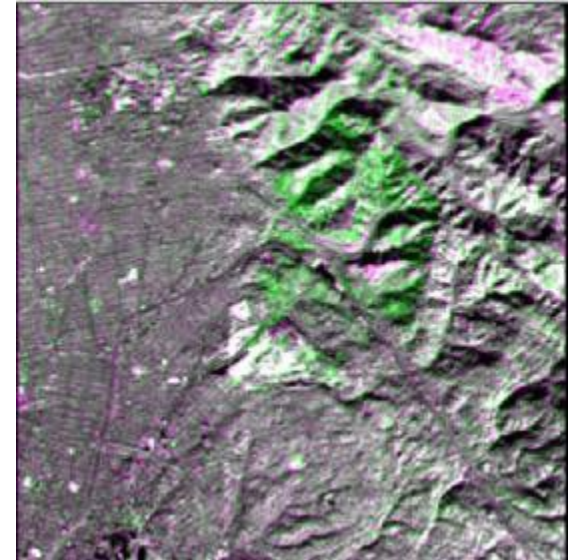
# Change Detection: Visual Analysis



1991



1999



Change Image

*Landsat images of vegetation regrowth after the Oakland fire*



# Change Detection: Visual Analysis

Using a GIS or image processing software.....

**1991 band 4  
(NIR)**

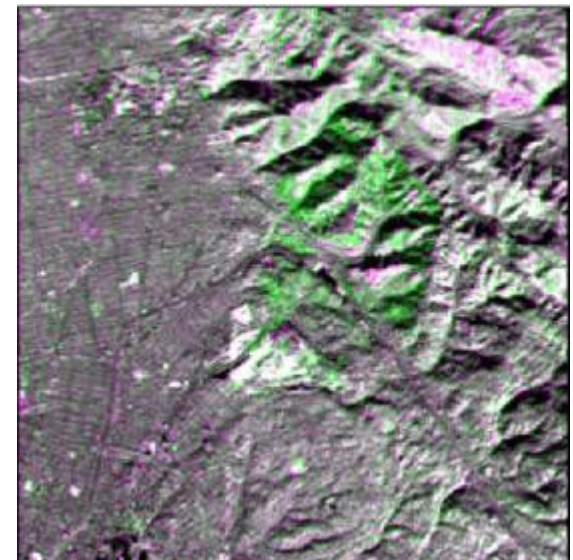
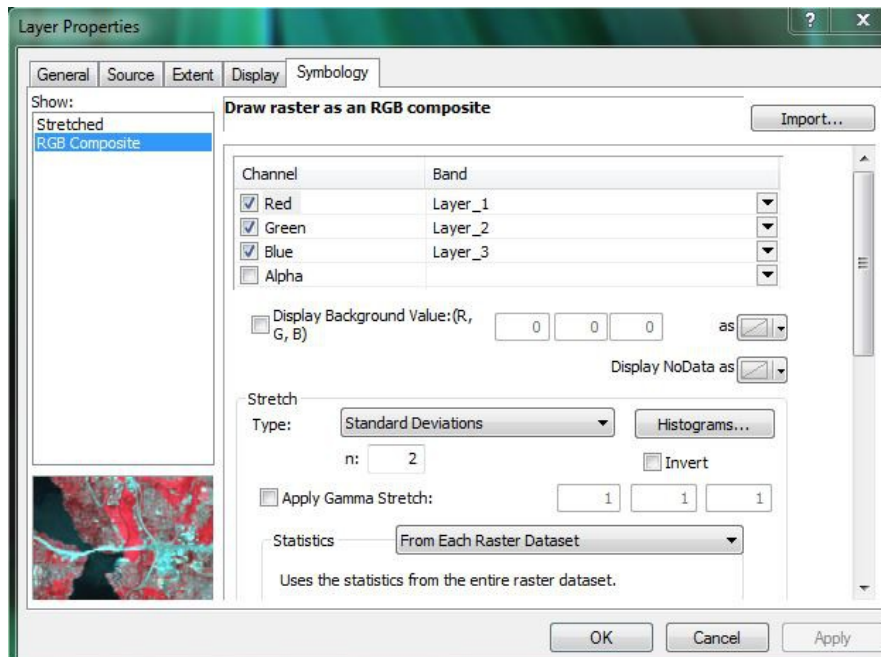
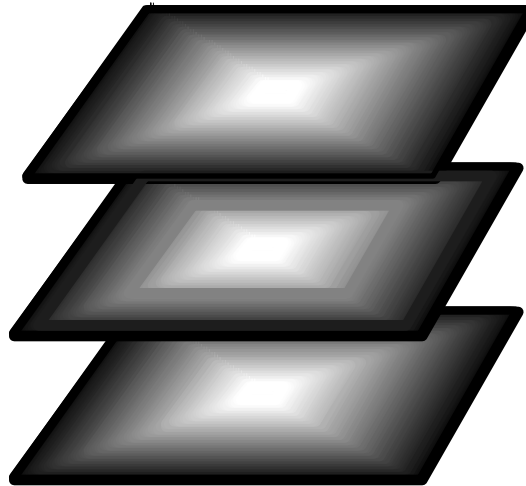
**Red Channel**

**1999 band 4  
(NIR)**

**Green Channel**

**1991 band 4  
(NIR)**

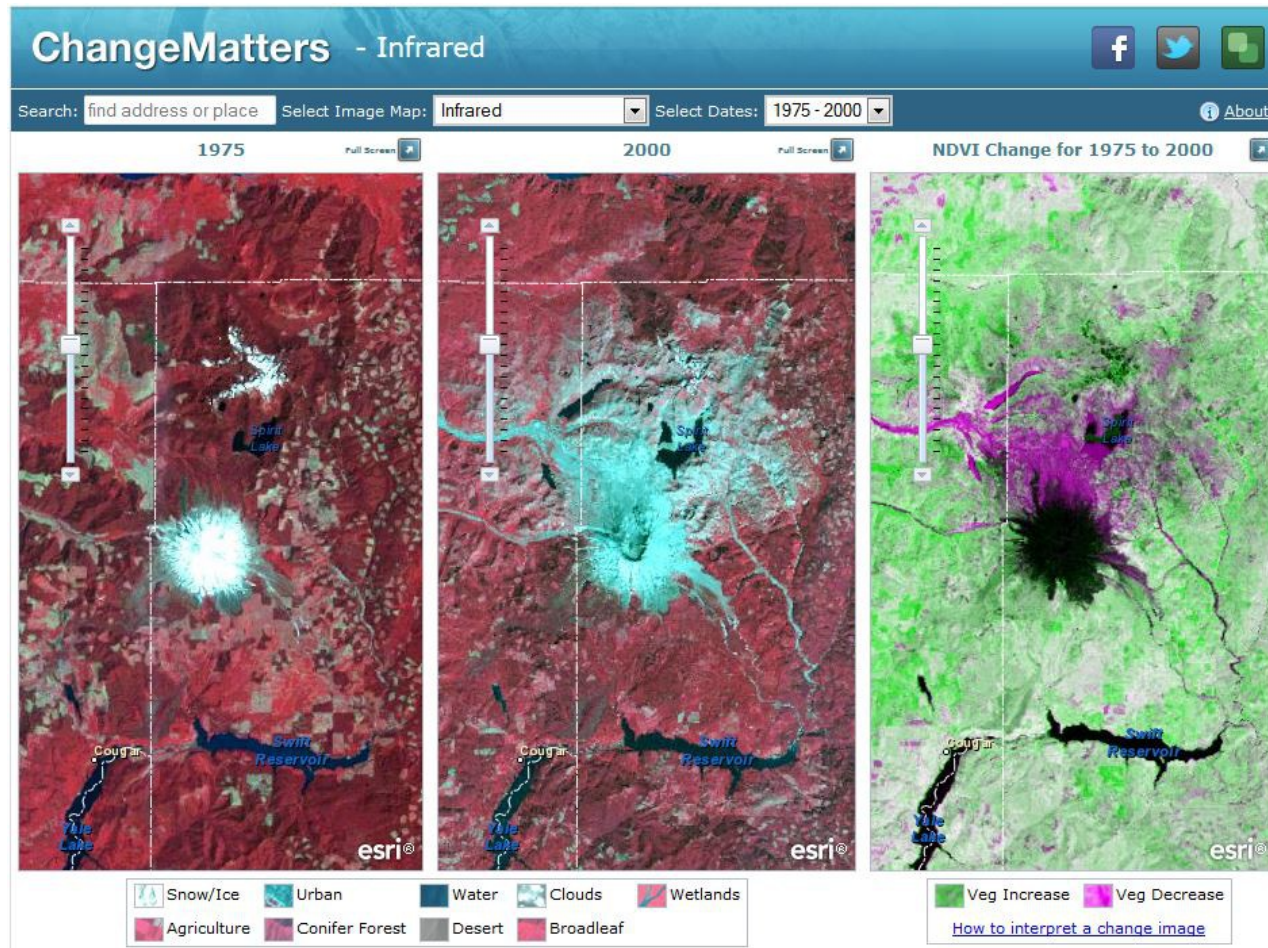
**Blue Channel**





# Change Detection: ArcGIS Change Matters

([www.esri.com/software/landsat-imagery/viewer](http://www.esri.com/software/landsat-imagery/viewer))



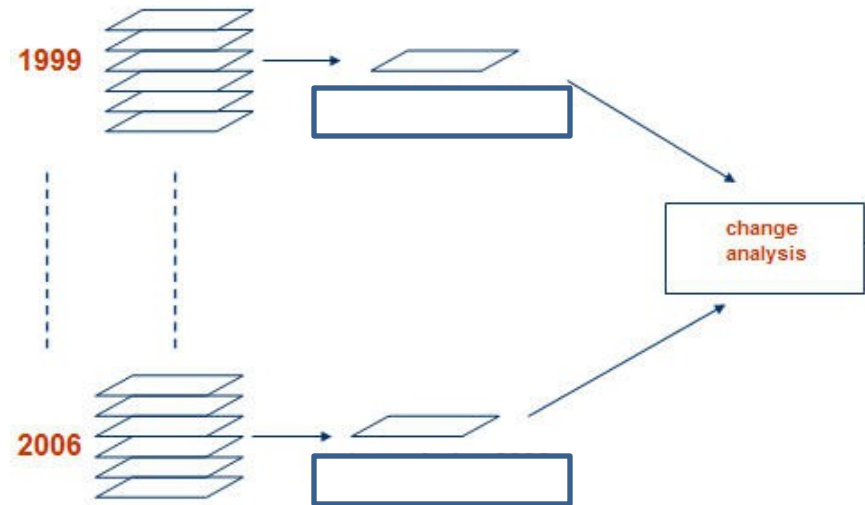
# Change Detection: Traditional Methods

- Two dates of imagery (i.e. 5 to 10 years apart)

- Image subtraction
- Image classification

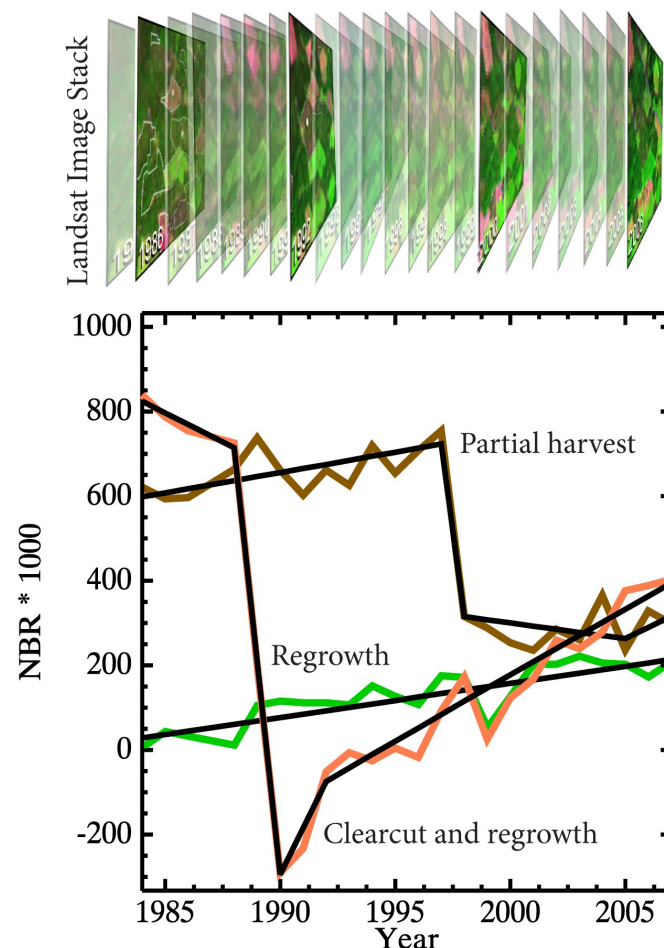
- Need:

- GIS or image processing software
- Ability to interpret change
- Precise registration of images



# Change Detection Methods: Recent Developments

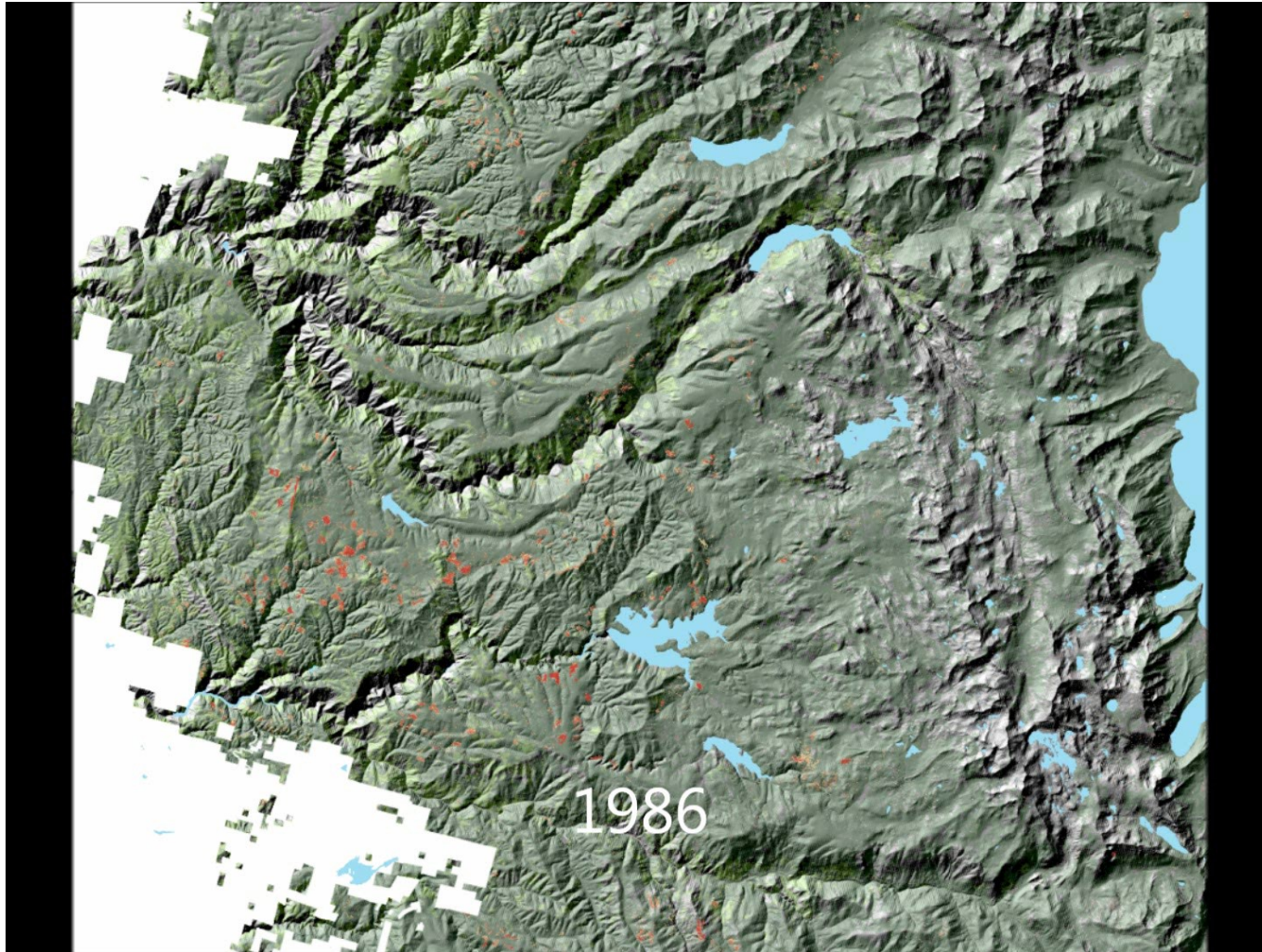
- New methods (such as Landtrendr and Vegetation Change Tracker) take advantage of the entire Landsat archive (1985-current) by using an annual time series to look at changes/trends
- What comes from Landtrendr:
  - Magnitude of change: 1-100% tree cover loss
  - Duration: 1-25 years
  - Year of onset of disturbance



Kennedy, R., et al. (2010). Detecting trends in forest disturbance and recovery using early Landsat time series: 1. LandTrendr- Temporal segmentation algorithms. *Remote sensing of Environment*, 114, 2897-2910



# Results of LandTrendr Processing: Forest Disturbance in California



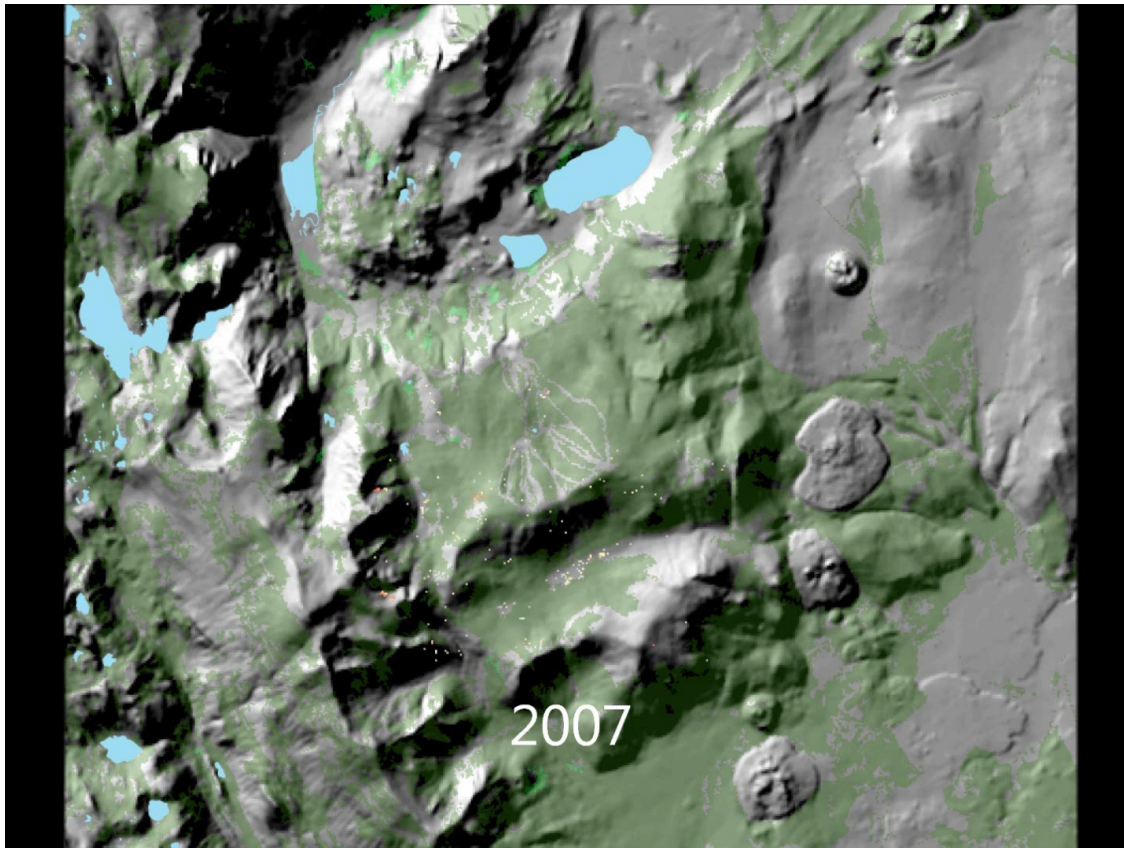
Tahoe and El  
Dorado National  
Forests, west of  
Lake Tahoe



# Results of LandTrendr Processing:

## Forest Disturbance in California

Animation demonstrates the temporal pattern of insect-caused mortality of Whitebark pine on June Mountain in the eastern Sierra Nevada, California

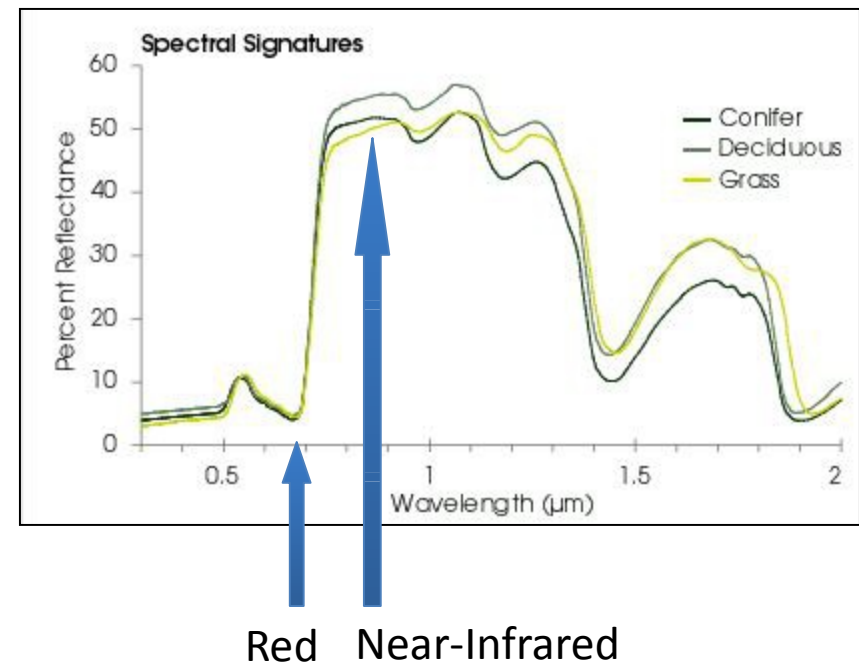
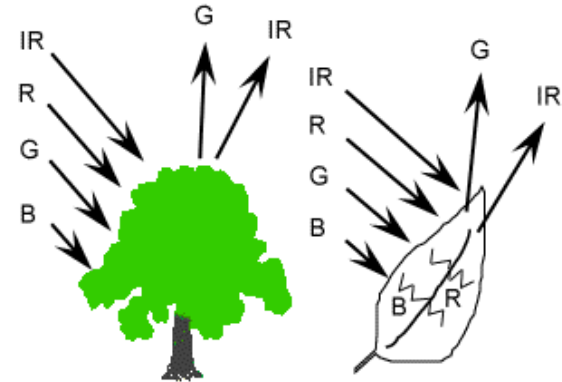




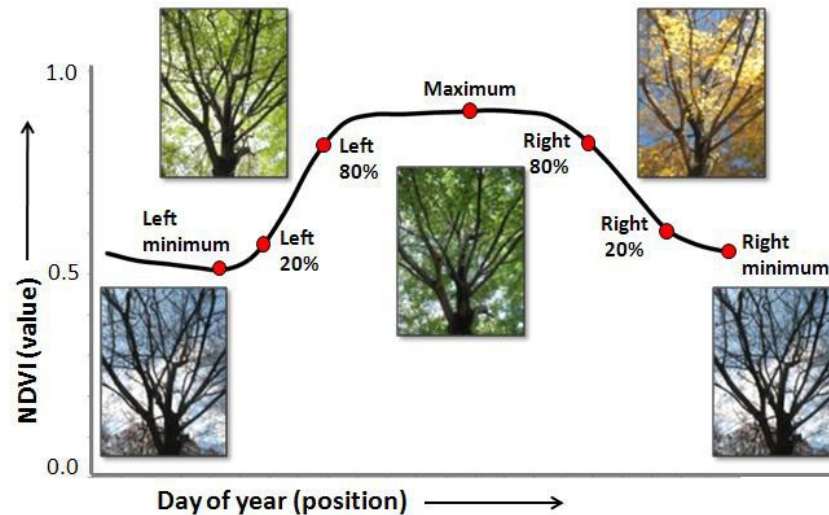
# NDVI Time Series:

## Vegetation Index Refresher

- What is a vegetation index?
  - Based on the relationship between red and near-infrared wavelengths.
  - Chlorophyll strongly absorbs visible (red)
  - Plant structure strongly reflects near-infrared



# NDVI: Phenology



Phenology – Using remote sensing to track seasonal changes in vegetation



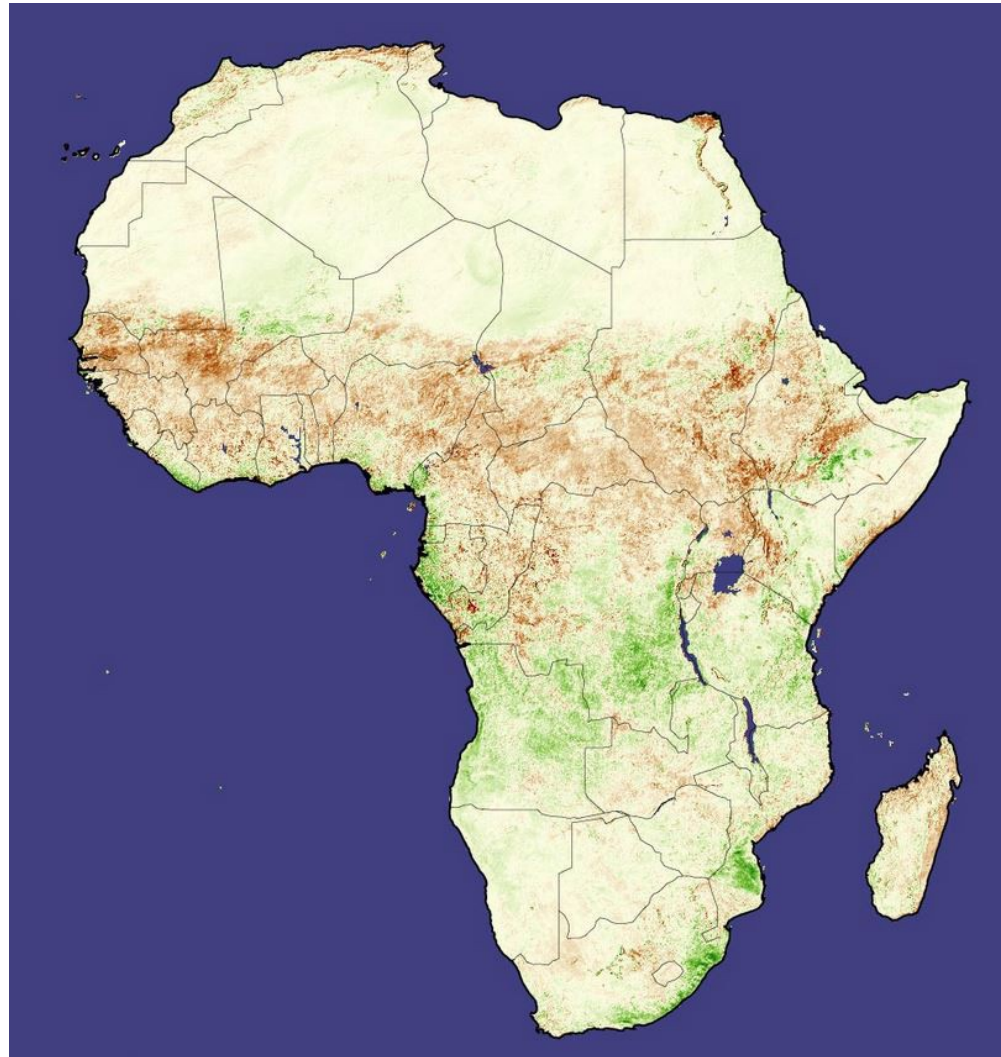
North America  
NDVI images in  
winter and summer

Source: [spacegrant.montana.edu](http://spacegrant.montana.edu)

# NDVI: Drought monitoring

Areas affected by drought can be detected by calculating the difference in NDVI between a single year and a multi-year average

This is a September 2002 NDVI anomaly image for Africa. Brown areas represent areas where vegetation density is less than previously observed and the green represents where vegetation is more dense.



*Credit: NASA MODIS*

# **Where to Obtain and Visualize Change Detection Datasets**

# Datasets/Websites Used for Change Detection

	Name	Dates	Image Source/Location	Spatial Resolution	Available Data	Extent
Data downloads	National Land Cover Database 2011 (USGS)	2001-2011	Landsat TM	30 m	Landcover, % impervious, % tree cover, landcover change	Conterminous U.S.
	North American Landscape Characterization (USGS)	1973,1986,1991 triplicates	Landsat MSS		MSS images	Conterminous U.S. and Mexico
	Vegetative Cover Conversion	2000-2010	MODIS (MOD44B)	250 m	Percent tree cover	Global
	Land Cover/Land Cover Change	2001-2012	MODIS (MCD12Q1)	500 m	Land cover type	Global
Web Viewers	Land Cover Dynamics	2001-2010	MODIS EVI (MCD12Q2)	500m	Timing of vegetation phenology	Global
	Forest Change Assessment Viewer	2000-2013	MODIS	500 m	Forest change, phenology	U.S.
	Global Forest Change (University of Maryland)	2000-2012	Landsat ETM+	30 m	Forest extent, loss and gain	Global
	Global Forest Watch (World Resources Institute)	2000-2012	Landsat ETM+	30 m	Forest extent, loss and gain plus forest use, protected areas, etc.	Global



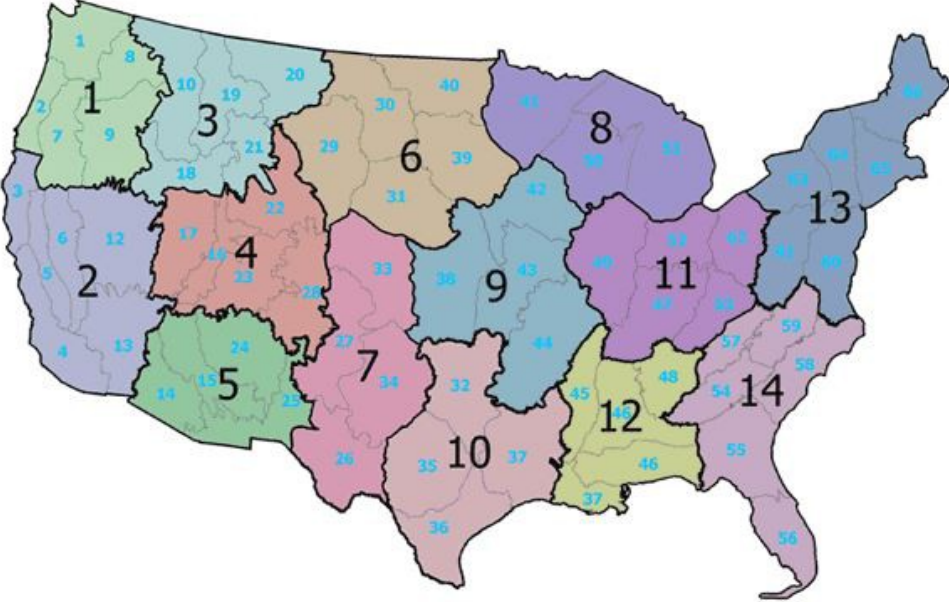
# National Land Cover Database (NLCD)

## Land Cover Change Product

*Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC)*

**National Land Cover Database (NLCD)**

Home Find Data Resources FAQ About Us Contact Us



Find the superzone(s) required for complete state coverage.

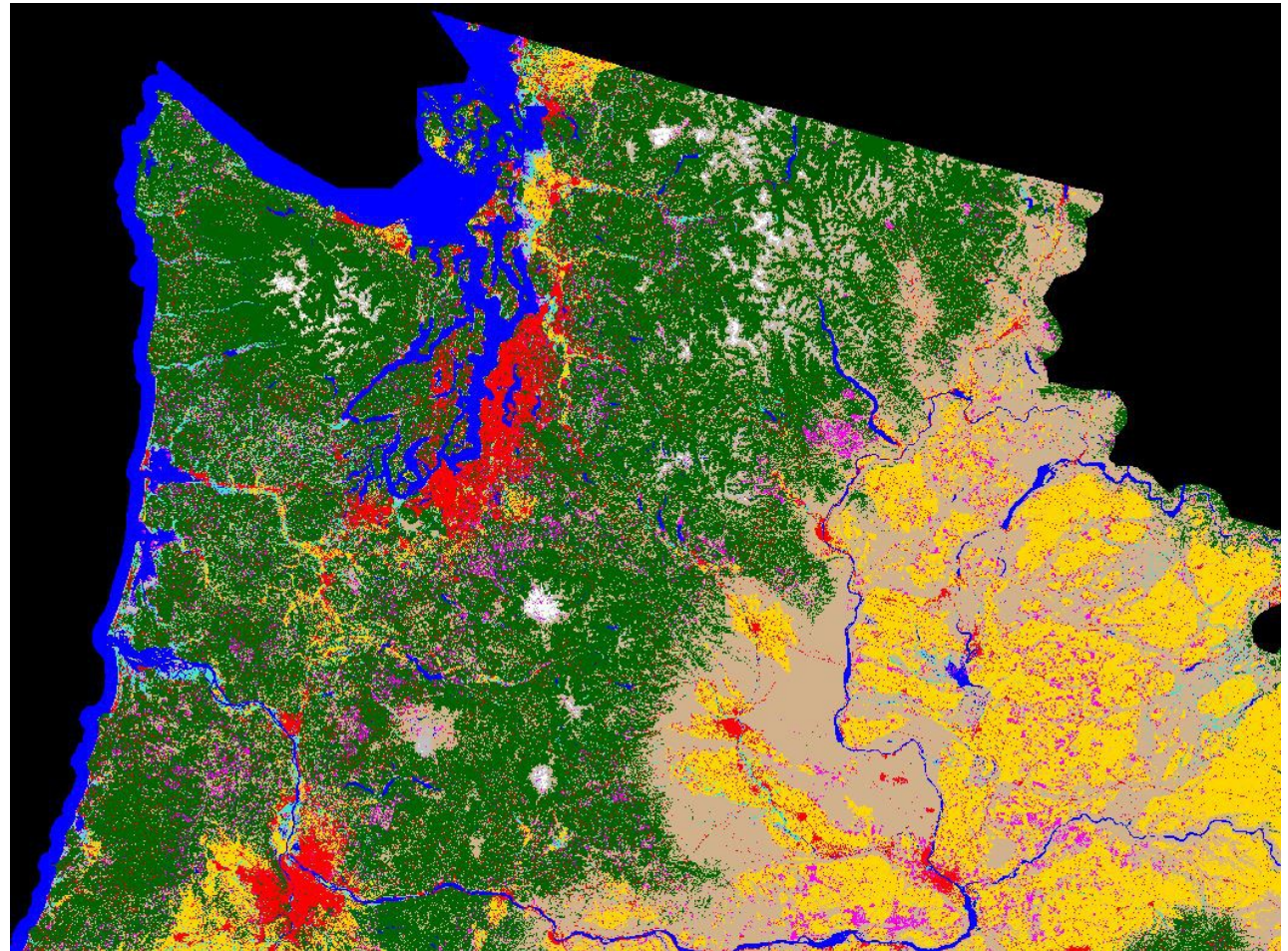
Choose a state

[Access](#) the NLCD zone attributes shape file.

# National Land Cover Database (NLCD)

## Land Cover Change Product

- Land cover change between 1992 and 2001
- Pink areas represent changes
- Need a GIS to view and analyze

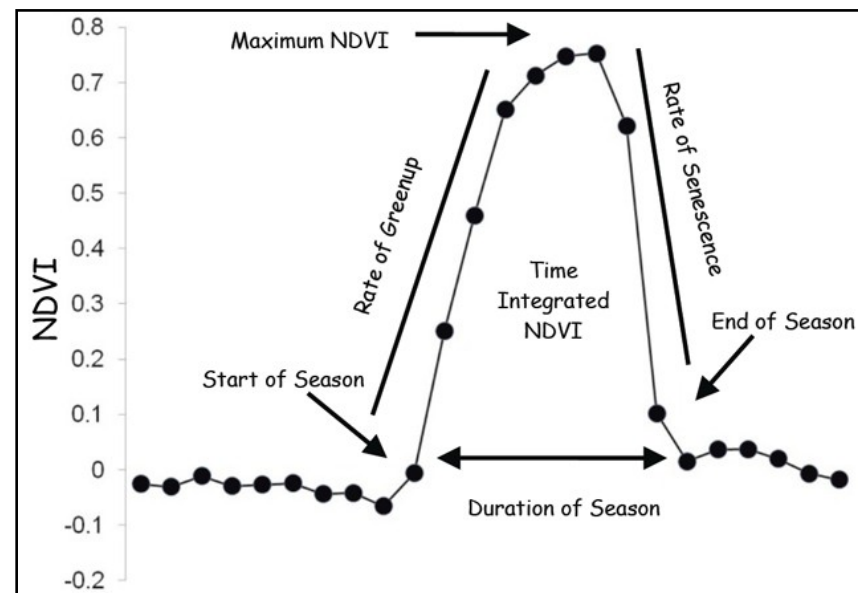


*Land cover change in the Pacific Northwest*

# MODIS NDVI Phenology

(USGS EROS Data Center: [phenology.cr.usgs.gov](http://phenology.cr.usgs.gov))

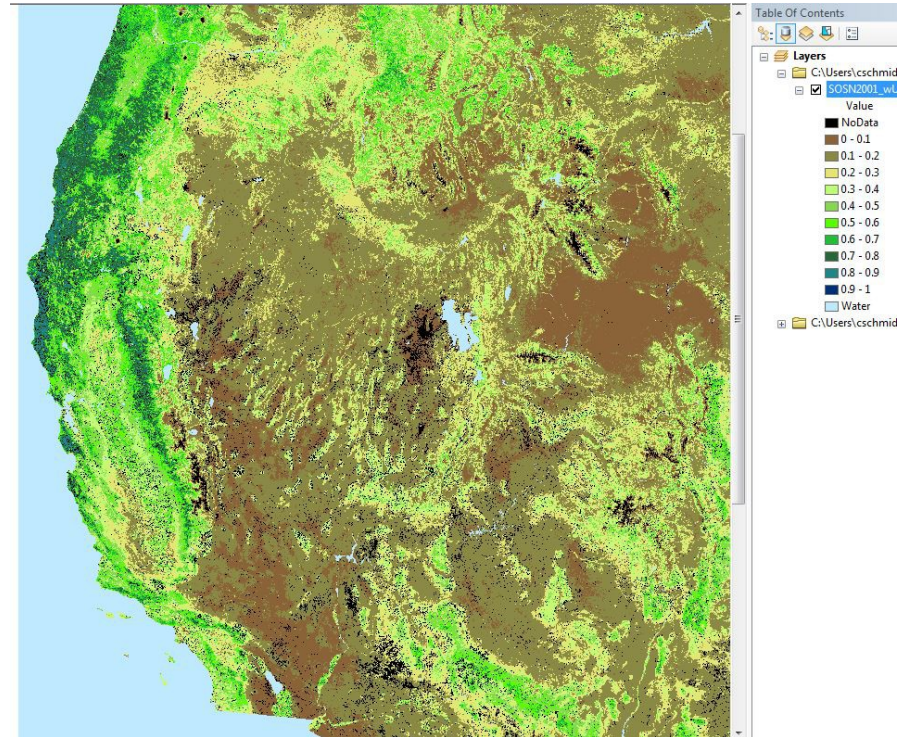
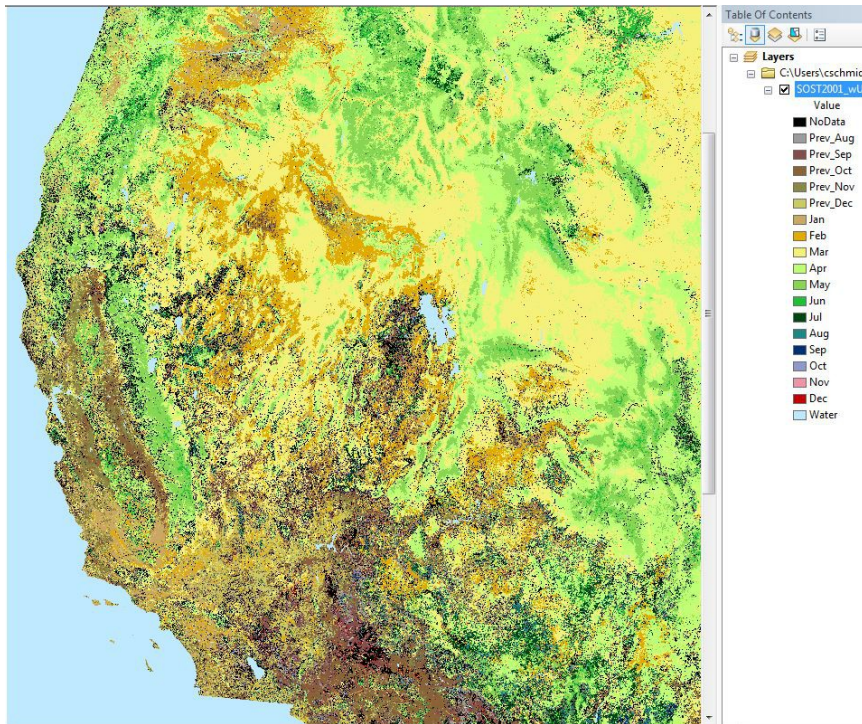
- Available datasets for the United States: 2001-2012
  - Start of season time/NDVI
  - End of season time/NDVI
  - Time of Maximum NDVI
  - Length of growing season
  - Maximum increase in





# MODIS NDVI Phenology

Start of Season timing and NDVI values for 2001



Need a GIS to visualize and analyze!

# What is ForWarn?

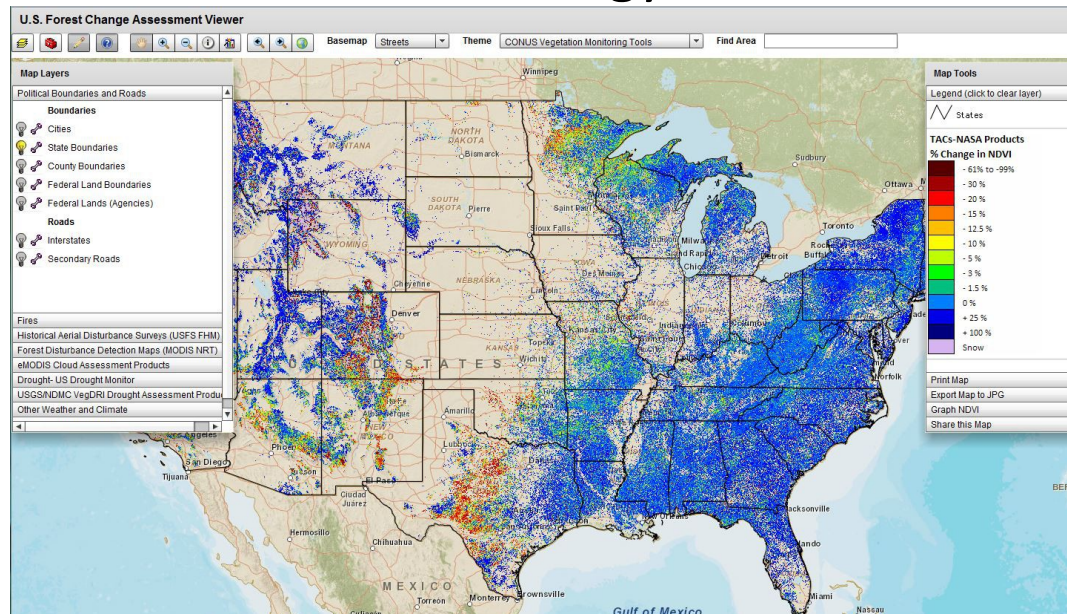
- Satellite-based forest disturbance monitoring system for the U.S.
- New forest change products every 8-days
- Archived data for disturbance tracking since 2000
- Derived from MODIS
- Web-map service to visualize forest change:  
Forest Change Assessment Viewer



# U.S. Forest Change Assessment Viewer (ForWarn)

Three types of products:

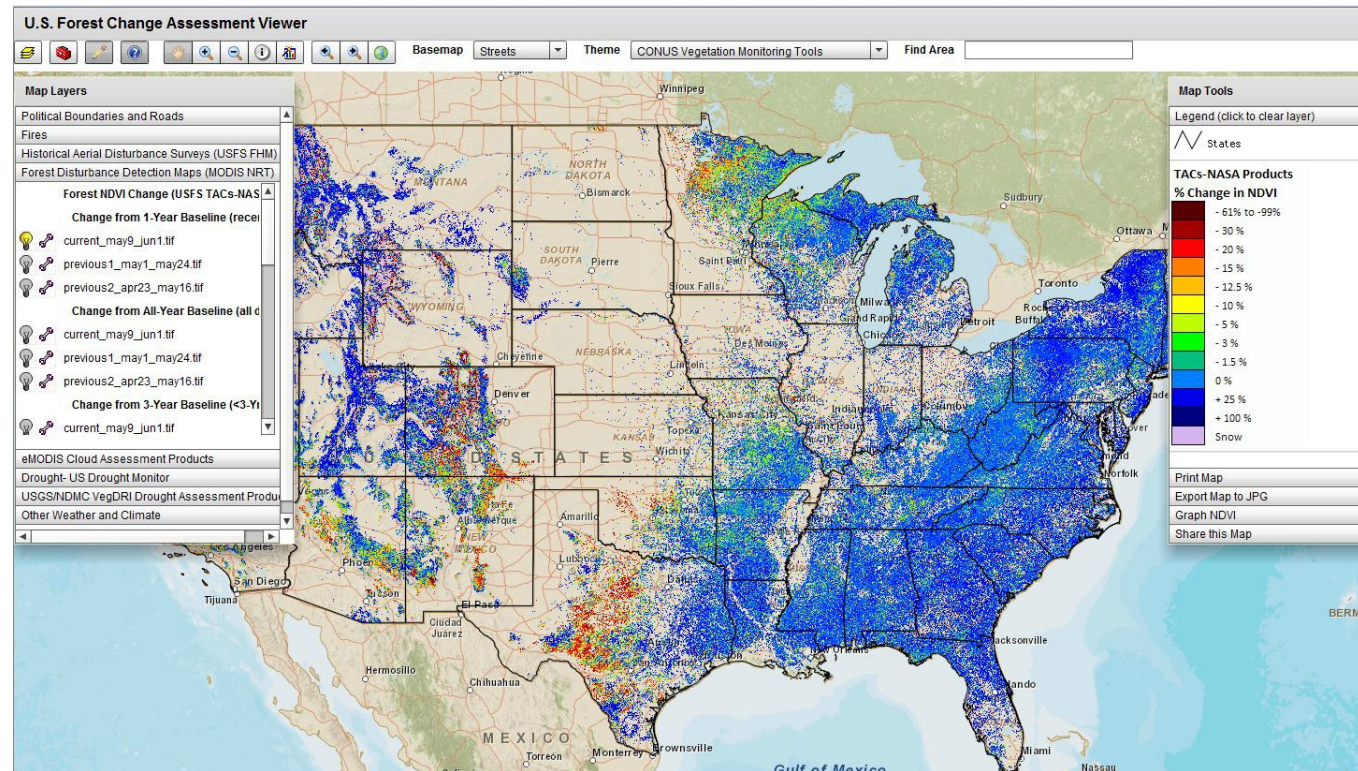
- Forest Change Products
- Basic Phenology Products
- Derivative Phenology Products



<http://forwarn.forestthreats.org>

# U.S. Forest Change Assessment Viewer: Forest Change Products

- Changes in NDVI produced year-round at 8-day intervals
- Each map shows the prevailing conditions (maximum greenness) compared to a similar 24-day time period during one of three possible baselines (“normals”):
  - The prior year
  - The last 3 years
  - The full period of record



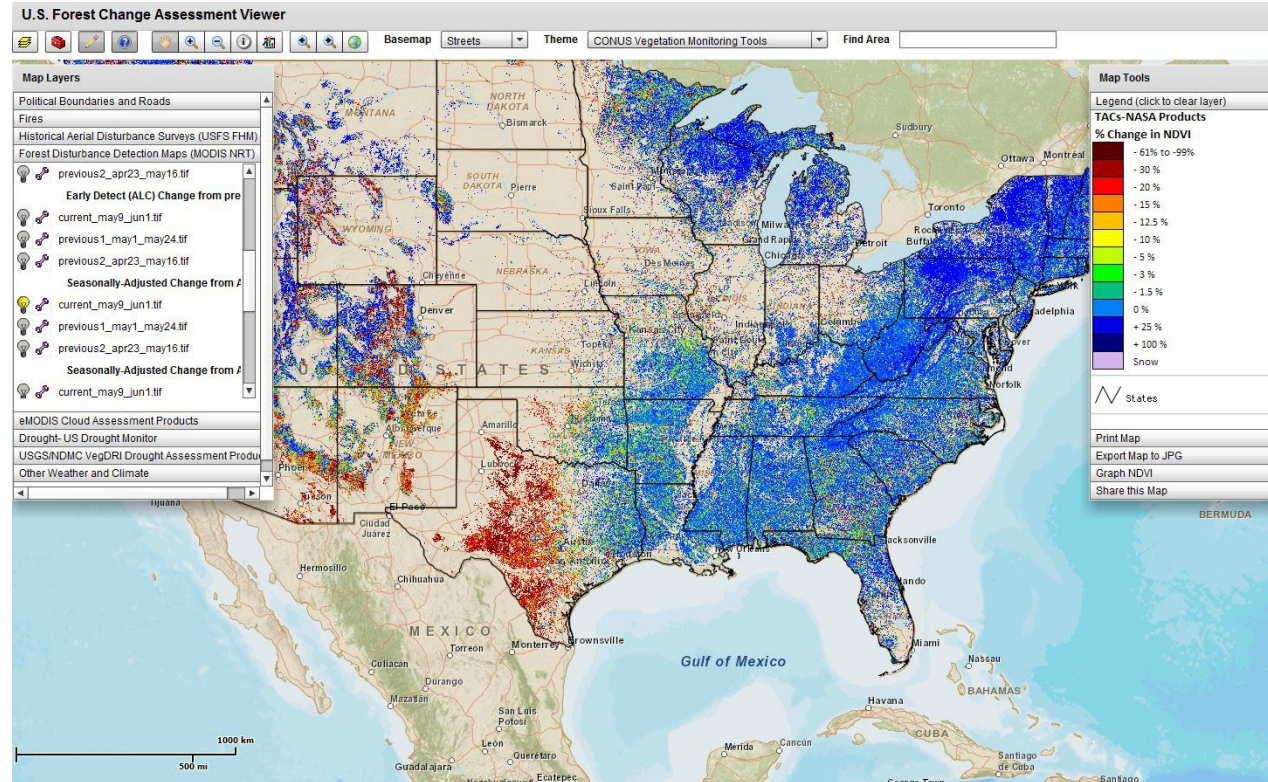
*This image shows the change in NDVI between the May 9 to June 1 time frame and the 1-year baseline*



# U.S. Forest Change Assessment Viewer: Forest Change Products

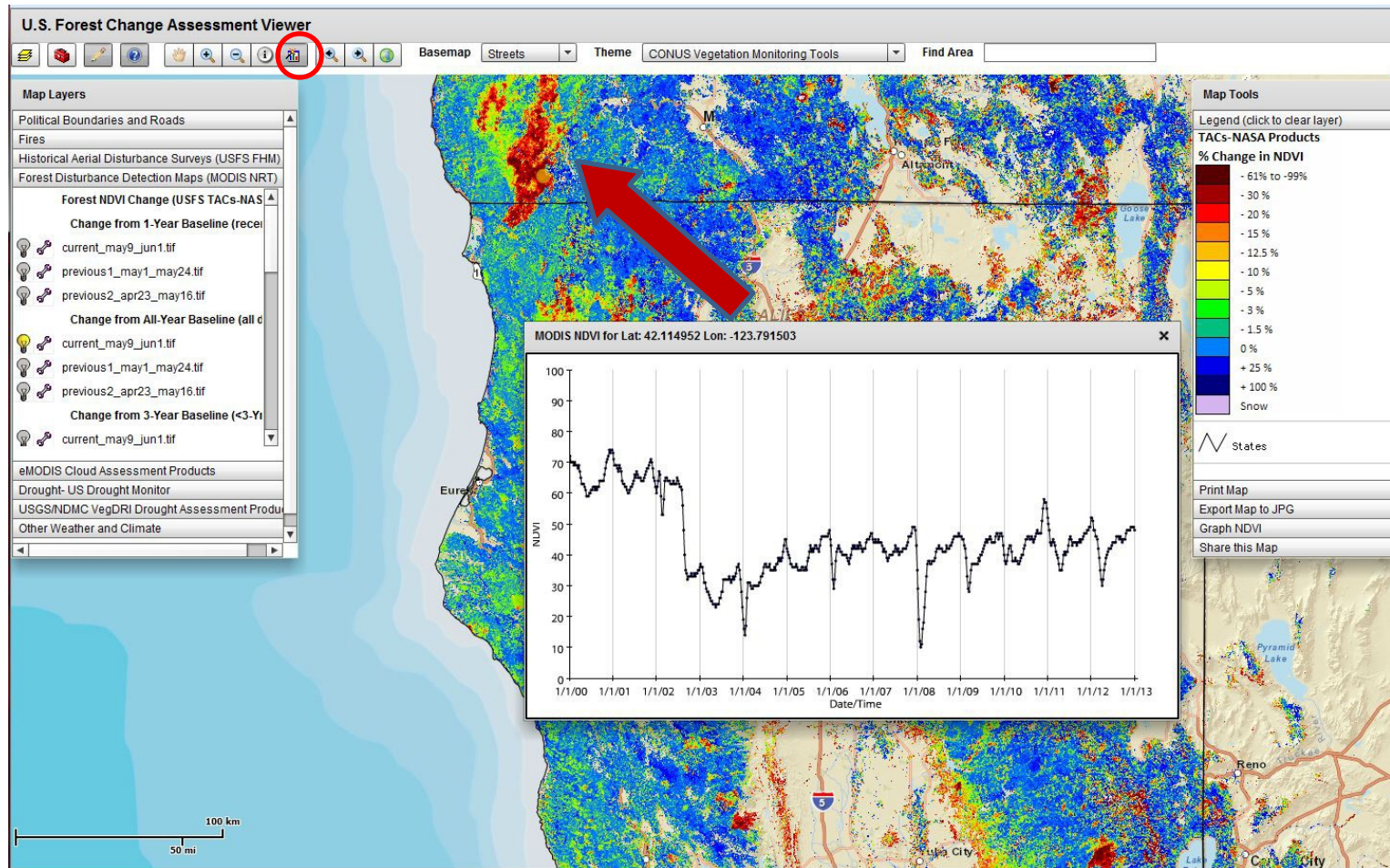
Additional products:

- “Early Detect” change from previous year
- Seasonally-adjusted change – Excludes normal seasonal fluctuations in green-up and brown down.



*This image shows seasonally-adjusted change for the time period May 9-June 1, 2014.*

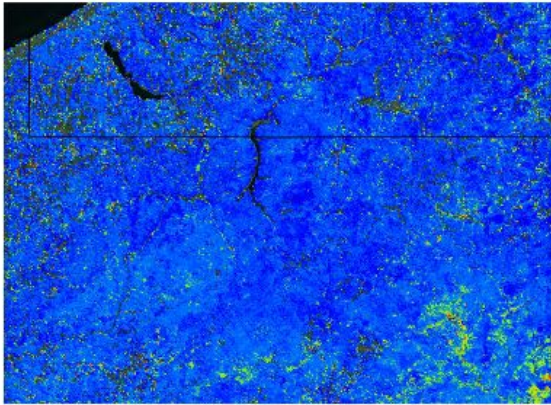
# U.S. Forest Change Assessment Viewer: Basic Phenology Products



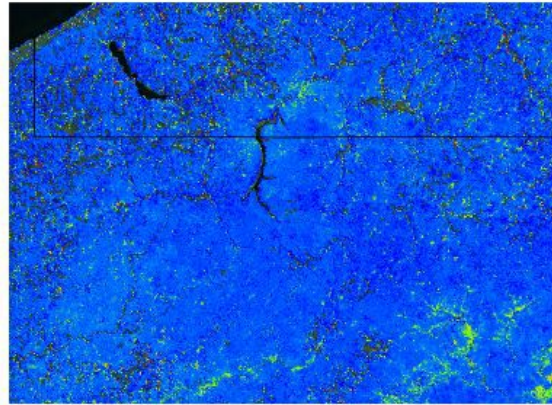


# Use of ForWarn: 2013 Gypsy Moth Defoliation in New York and Pennsylvania

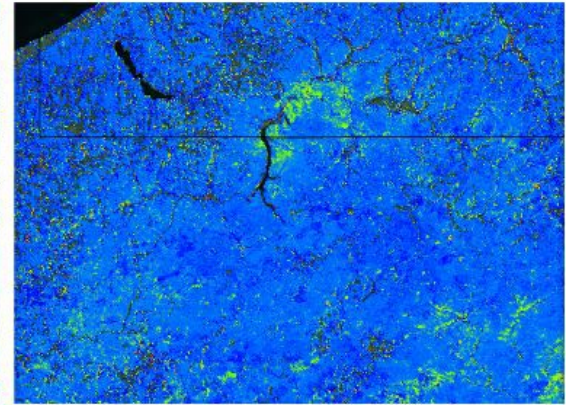
06/01/2013



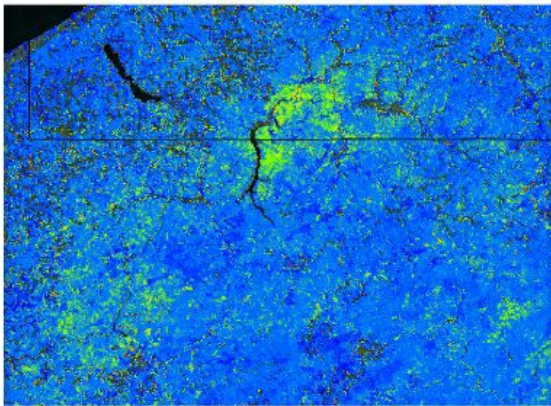
06/09/2013



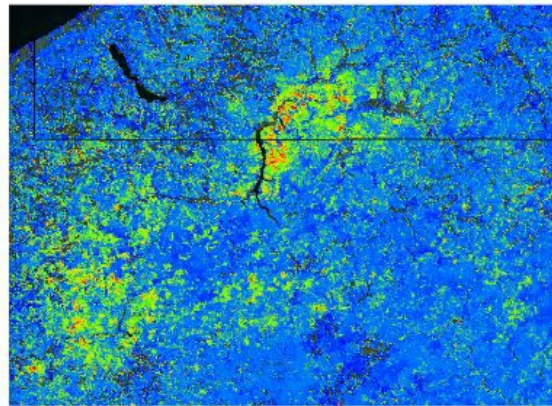
06/17/2013



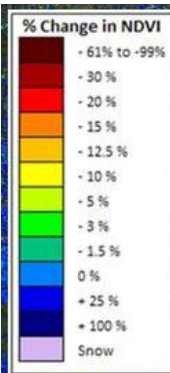
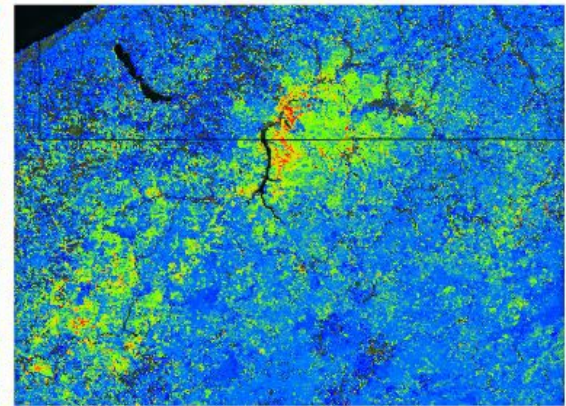
06/25/2013



07/03/2013



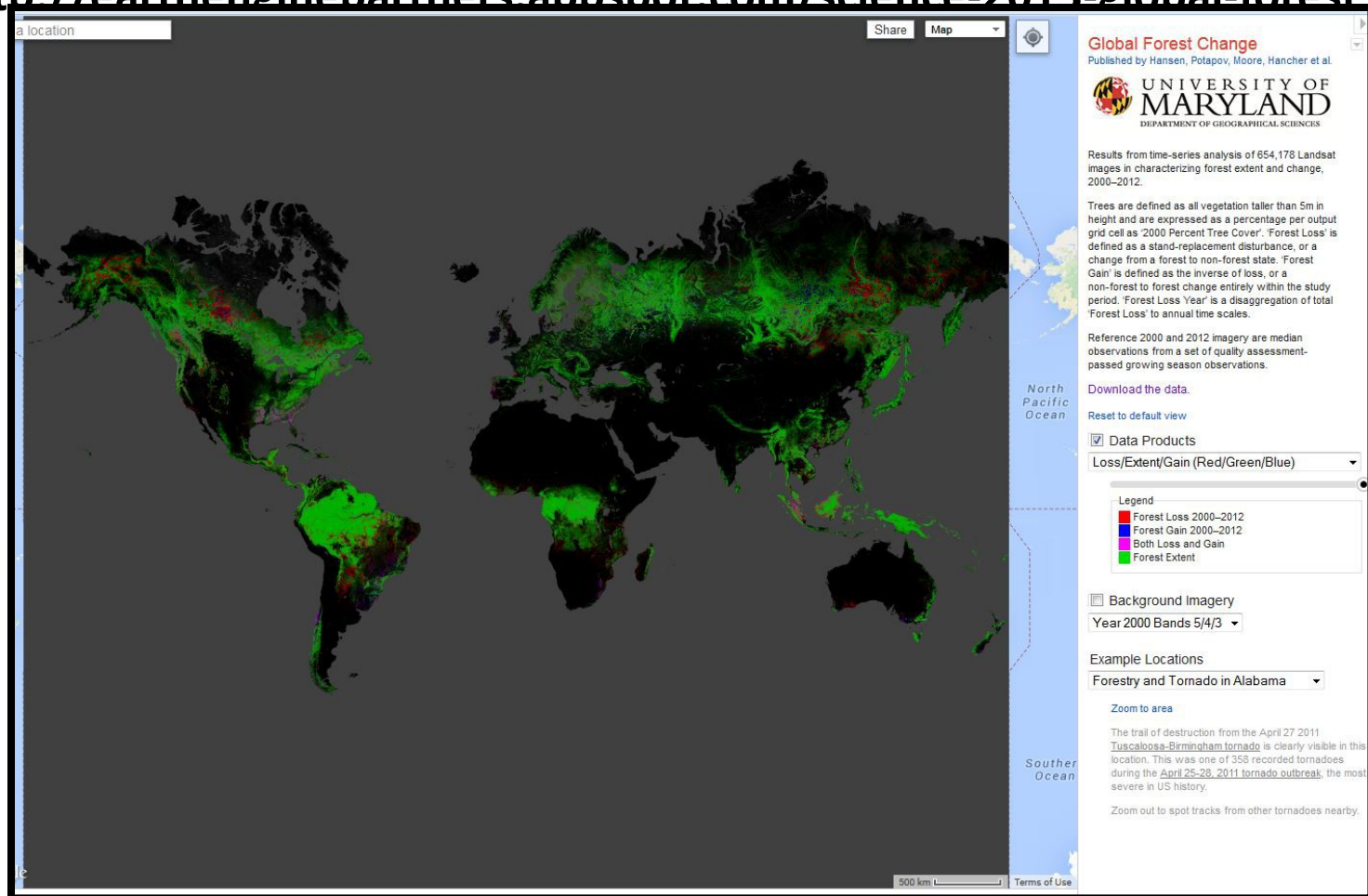
007/11/2013





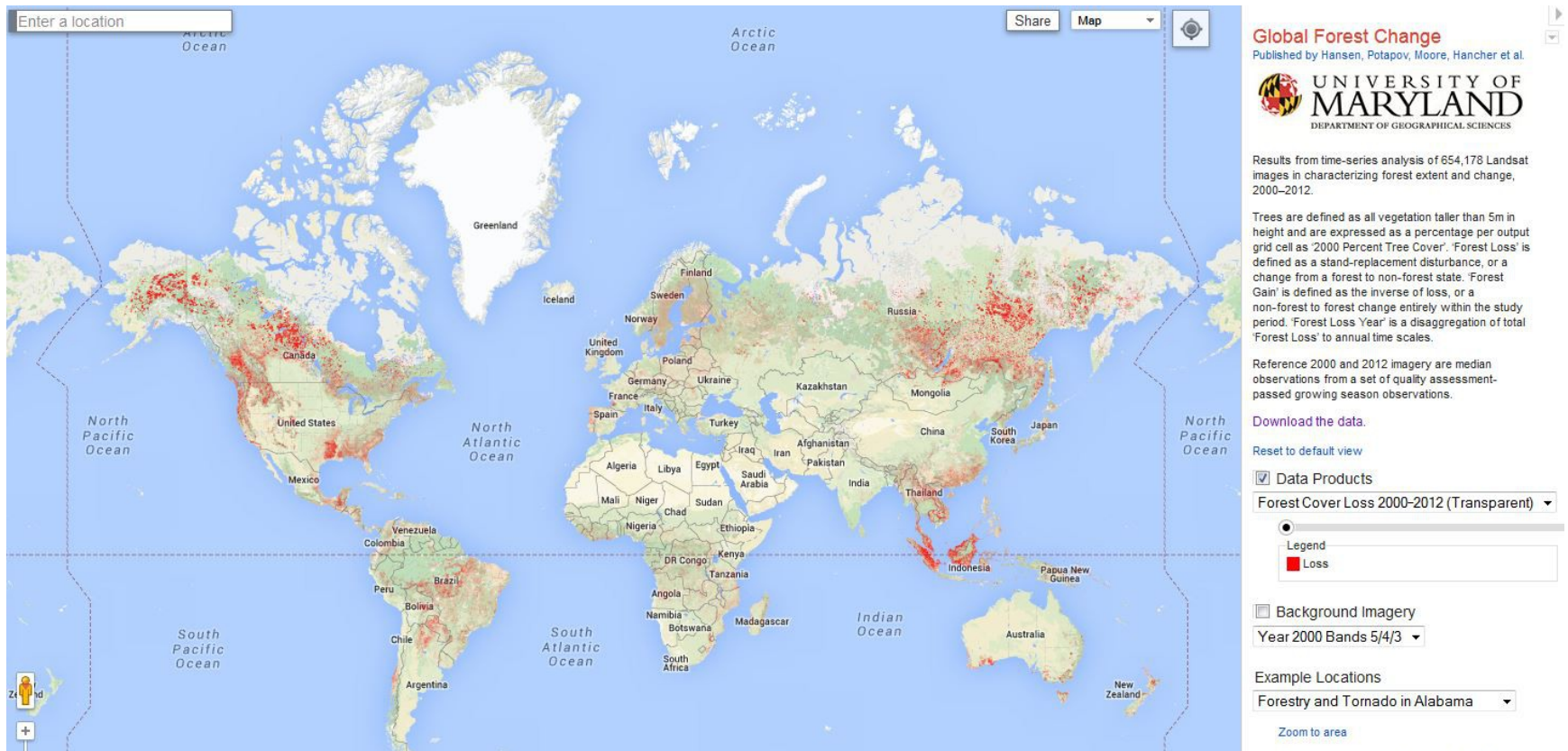
# Change Detection Web Portal: Global Forest Change

<http://earthenginepartners.appspot.com/science-2013-global-forest>



*This image shows forest extent (green) and forest loss (red)*

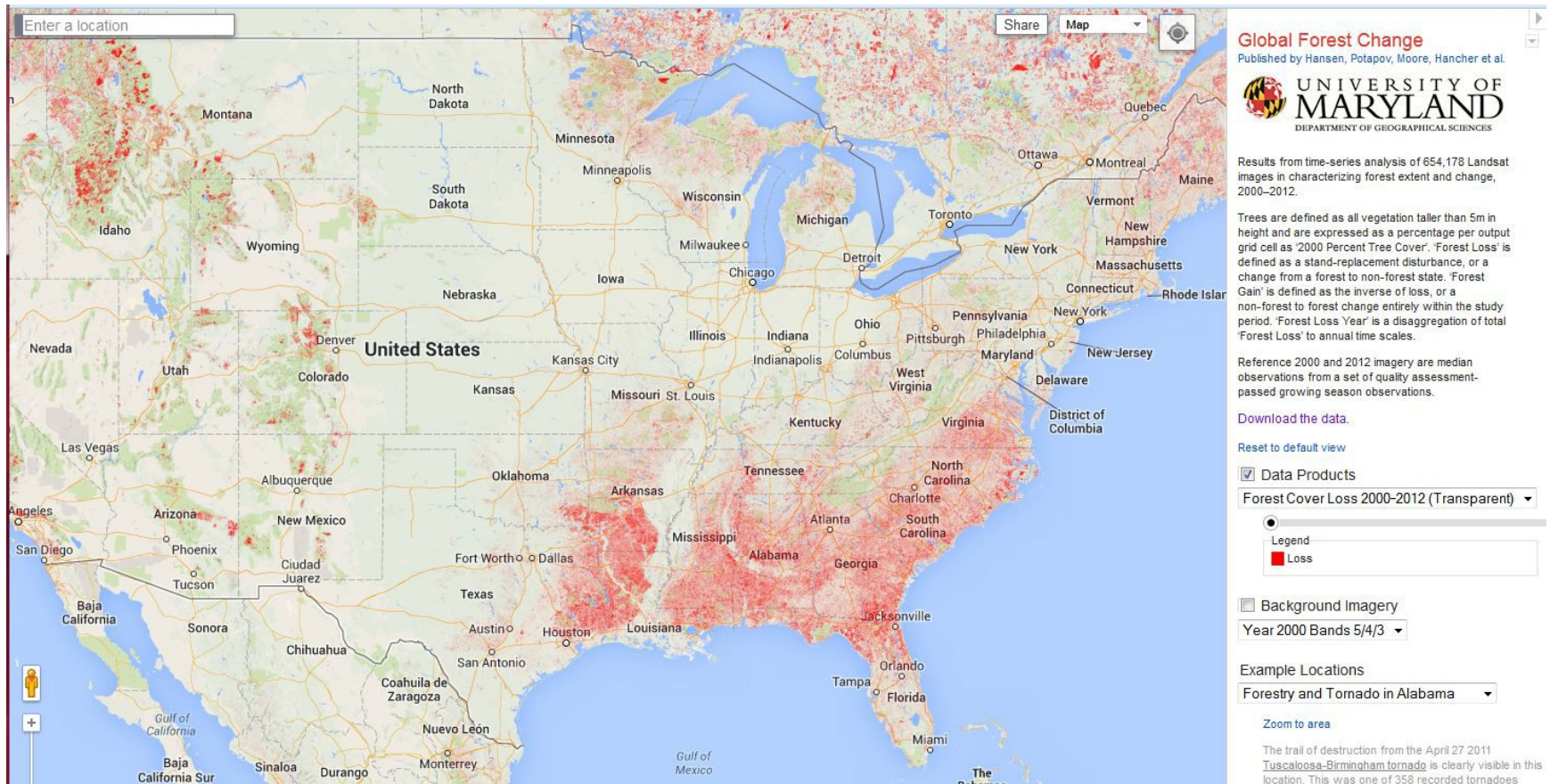
# Global Forest Change



*This image shows forest loss between 2000-2012*

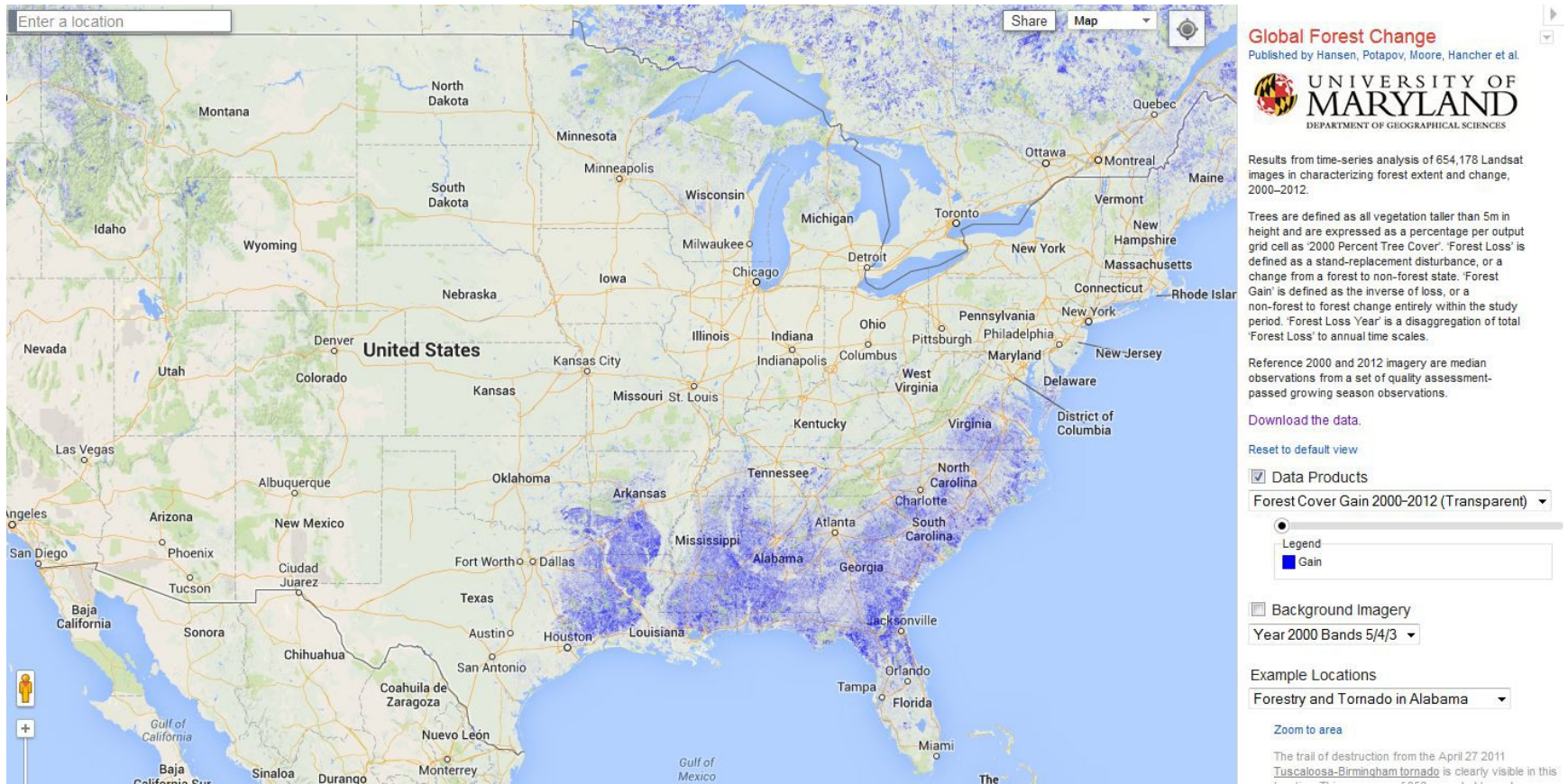


# Global Forest Change



*Forest loss between 2000-2012*

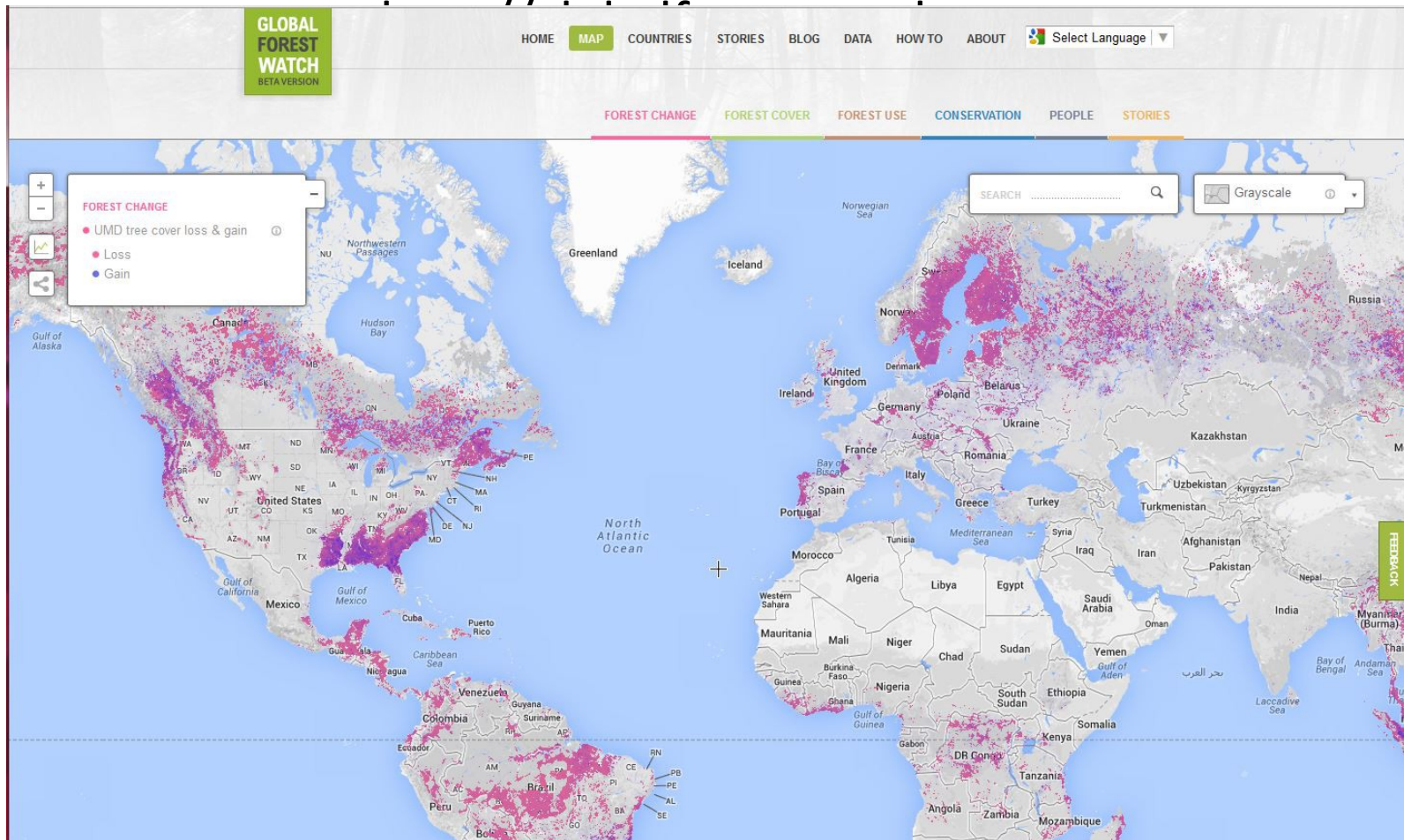
# Global Forest Change



*Forest gain from 2000-2012*



# Change Detection Web Portal: Global Forest Watch



Next: Global Forest Watch Live demo



**Coming up next week!**

**Week 5 (17 June 2014)**

**Live demonstrations of data  
access and visualization web  
portals**

# **Thank You!**

Cynthia.L.Schmidt@nasa.gov